

THE BOOKHAMS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Company Limited by Guarantee - Number 10053863

Minutes of the 92nd Annual General Meeting
Held on Wednesday 10th July 2019
in the Old Barn Hall, Church Road, Great Bookham

Present

Directors: Chris Pullan, Peter Seaward, David Smith

Company Secretary: John Howarth

Members & Committee members of the Association

1. Chairman's Welcome & Introduction

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for it being a formal rerun of the event held in May because the original event had not been given sufficient time for the formal Calling Notice to go out to members.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Michael Agius, Cllr Clare Curran, Cllr Simon Edge, Andrew Freeman, Les Huett, Cllr Richard Moyes.

3. Minutes of 91st Annual General Meeting

These were **ACCEPTED** as a true record of the meeting, subject to an apology from the Company Secretary who had managed to put the wrong date on the document.

4. Chairman's Report

The Chairman began his report by commenting that most of the Association's activities were recorded and reported in the Newsletter, on the web site and the other social media tools that were used.

He commented that most were visible and in particular mentioned Margaret Lawson's organised monthly litter pick, the most recent of which had resulted in over 13 people (including two Councillors) weeding the High Street. He said the Committee were appalled that this work was not done by Mole Valley and that this fact has been made clear to them.

He also reminded the meeting that every Planning application for Bookham was examined by the Planning sub-Committee.

In respect of fund raising he reported that funds had been raised in respect of Chrystie Rec and that the cricket pitch had been completely re-laid and had been used for the first time the previous weekend.

The Association had good working relationships with Councillors, the other Resident Associations in north Mole Valley (Ashted, Fetcham and Leatherhead) and with MVDC, with whom they had regular bi-monthly meetings.

There were, he said, some pressing issues that the Association would be involved with in the coming months:

- The forthcoming Local Plan – mentioned at some length by the Company Secretary in the May meeting
- The changing nature of retail and the consequent pressures on the village centre.

Finally he expressed his thanks to all of those on the BRA Committee, the Road Stewards and all those others who turn out to help what the Association does.

5. Treasurer's Report

He reminded the meeting that this was the second occasion on which he presented a full year's Accounts for a Company Limited by Guarantee.

He said that the Association had two main sources of income – subscriptions and donations for projects.

In respect of non-project expenditure the deficit for the year was £728. Subscription income was £7,578 – slightly down on the previous year's figure. The largest item of expenditure was the Newsletter at £2,648 and that another critical item was the need to increase Public Liability Insurance Cover from £5m to £10m and that this had resulted in an increase of the premium by £557. Bank charges were now payable and were expected to amount to about £200 for a full year.

Donations for projects came principally from Mole Valley District Council and Surrey County Council. These donations are allocated to restricted sub-funds which are:

- Christmas Lights: MVDC donated half of the cost and their donations were £1,250 for 2017 and £1,250 for 2018
- Hanging Baskets: full cost was £960 which was met half from the Hanging Baskets sub-fund and half from the BRA General Fund
- Trees: £1,500 had been spent in 2018
- Bookham Heritage: £35 had been spent in 2018
- Cycle/Memorial: £3,226 had been spent on cleaning the War Memorial
- Education: This is money held by the BRA on behalf of DDOCA on the understanding that it is used for matters relating to the education of children and in 2018 £200 was given as a donation to the Leatherhead Youth Project

During the year a grant of £7,500 had been received for the Recreation Ground. However expenses were £8,688 and the shortfall was covered from the General Fund, i.e. non-project expenditure. However he was confident that a grant for this shortfall would be received in the following year.

He reported that Bookham Vision had decided to wind-up and passed to the BRA their remaining funds of £2,791. These funds had been received early in 2019.

Finally he commented that because of the increases in costs (e.g: Public Liability Insurance, bank charges) mentioned above – plus the need for the Association to part fund projects (e.g. Christmas Lights and Hanging Baskets) despite the receipt of relevant donations he felt it necessary to propose an increase in annual subscription for 2020. (Refer to Minute 8)

(Note: The Company Secretary confirmed that formal accounts would be filed with Companies House before the end of September, with the Inland Revenue by the end of the year and would be posted on the BRA web site.)

6. Election of Directors

The Chairman handed the meeting to the Company Secretary at this point.

6.1 Resignations

There were no resignations from the Board

6.2 Re-Election of Directors

Peter Seaward and David Smith had retired from the Board according to Article 55 and had offered themselves for re-election. On being put to the vote this was **AGREED**

6.3 To elect New Directors

No nominations had been received. The Company Secretary reminded the meeting that such nominations had to be sent to him two weeks before the meeting. However any members wishing to join the Board during the year should contact him.

7. Election of Officers

7.1 Election of Chairman

Peter Seaward was nominated as Chairman. On being put to the vote this was **AGREED**

7.2 Election of Vice Chairman

Michael Agius was nominated as Vice Chairman. On being put to the vote this was **AGREED**

7.3 Election of Treasurer

Chris Pullan was nominated as Treasurer. On being put to the vote this was **AGREED**.

The Company Secretary returned the meeting to the Chairman at this point.

8. Membership Subscription

It was proposed by the Treasurer (see Minute 5) that this should be increased from £3 per year to £5 for the year 2020. On being put to the vote this was **AGREED**.

9. Independent Examiner

It was proposed that Lawrence Penney continue as Independent Examiner. On being put to the vote this was **AGREED**.

10. Any Other Business

There were no further items of business. The Chairman closed the meeting at this point.